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Washington Team Wins Government Trophy

Ski Meet Designed to Emphasize Alberta's Winter Vacation Opportunities and Promote Inter-College Goodwill

Under the auspices of the Government of Alberta, organized by the Department of Physical Education of the University of Alberta and conducted by the Ski Runners of the Canadian Rockies, the largest intercollegiate championship ski meet on the continent was held at Banff, February 5 and 6, 1949.

The Alberta Government Travel Bureau Trophy was won for the second consecutive year by the University of Washington with the exceptionally narrow margin of six-tenths of a point over the University of British Columbia. Eleven university and college teams entered the competitions, eight of the teams coming from the United States.

Principal purpose of this annual event is to bring the best ski talent from as many universities as possible together in friendly rivalry, so that the bonds of friendship and understanding between them may be further cemented, and also, in order that, having enjoyed the hospitality of Alberta and having experienced the pleasure of skiing on the unexcelled terrains of the Canadian Rockies, they may return to their far-flung homes to encourage others to come here—not only to ski, but to spend their vacations at any time of the year.

The meeting was an unqualified success. Teams from as far away as McGill University in Montreal and the University of Nevada in Reno carried away with them practical experience of having skied on terrain unique on this continent. They were emphatic in their sincere expressions of gratitude for the warm hospitality of Banff which, they declared, was "unequalled anywhere."

Skiing achievements were remarkable. Sixty-six competing runners in the downhill event snapped from the start at the dizzy 6,915-foot height, ripped through the narrow "Funnel," whipped around "The Cliff," streaked down "Memorial Slope" and plunged through "The Gully' for a vertical drop of more than 2,000 feet, to cover the course of more than a mile in less than three minutes. The winner made it in two minutes and thirty-three seconds. The giant slalom and slalom events, while shorter, were possibly more spectacular and certainly more technique-demanding. More than 2,000 spectators who came from Edmonton, Calgary and surrounding districts in special trains and automobiles attended despite the sub-zero weather.

The individual combined championship honors and the Alberta Government Travel Bureau Trophy with silver tray for the best performance in all events, went to Alan Fischer of Washington University, who also placed first in the giant slalom to win the Rocky Mountain Tours Trophy with the amazing time of 1.37.6. B. Schoenfeld, of Nevada University, won the Skyline Tours Trophy for the individual downhill event with the low time of 2.44.4 and J. Griffin, of McGill University, won the George Steer Trophy for the slalom with a time of 1:16.6.

Hon. A. J. Hooke, Minister of the Department of Economic Affairs, presented these awards on behalf of the Government of Alberta and the other donors. On behalf of George Encil, donor of 11 silver cups, Harvey Clifford, former Canadian Olympic team captain, made presentations to the coaches of the respective teams.

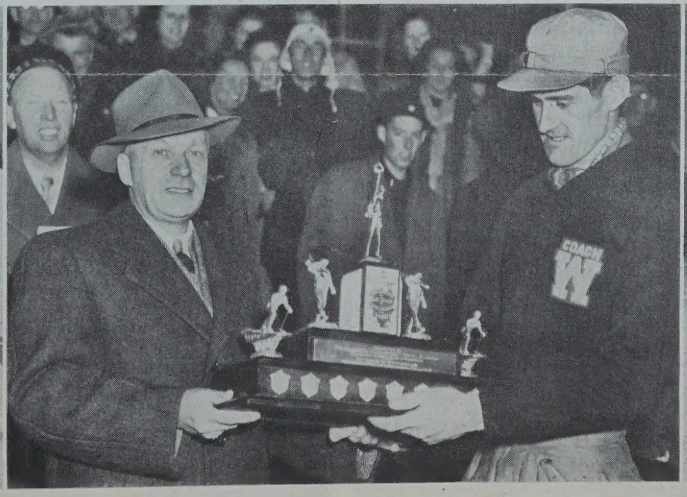
Competing teams came from University of Washington, University of Nevada, McGill University, Montana State College, University of Montana, Gonzaga University (Spokane), University of Portland, University of British Columbia, Lewis and Clark University (Washington), and University of Alberta. * * *

"Within Our Borders" is a publication designed to acquaint the people of the Province with the administration and services of the Alberta Government.

It is believed the many and varied services of the Government will be effective in the degree they are known and used. Any material used is for immediate republication.

Correspondence concerning the publication should be addressed to the Deputy Minister, Department of Economic Affairs, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton.

Some missed the gates . . .



And some received trophies . . .

For hitting the gates.

Nimble sewing fingers for future homemakers . . .

Nothing like experience to prepare farm dinners . . .

Agricultural Schools Train Future Farmers, Homemakers

Increasing Numbers of Young Albertans Take Advantage of Facilities Offered at Olds and Vermilion Schools

Each year increasing numbers of Alberta's future farmers and rural homemakers are going to school to prepare themselves for their life's work.

These young men and women enrol at the Schools of Agriculture and Home Economics operated by the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Situated at Olds and Vermilion, the schools were established in 1913 and in their 36 years of existence have turned out almost 9,000 graduates. Most of these graduates, through the specialized training they received, have played important roles in the development of agriculture, Alberta's basic and largest industry.

The school at Olds, in the south-central section of the Province, caters to the needs of farm young people from Red Deer south to the International Boundary. Of the various agricultural schools operated by the Department at one time or another it is the only one which has functioned continuously since its inception. At present it has an enrolment of about 200 students two-thirds of whom are boys studying agriculture and one-third girls taking the course in home economics.

Group of Buildings

Located immediately east of the town, the school consists of a group of buildings, chief of which are the administration building and dormitory. The former building contains the school offices, academic classrooms, home economics rooms and laboratories. The latter building houses, in addition to the men's and women's dormitories, the dining room, gymnasium, several classrooms and the offices of the dean of men and dean of women. Other prominent buildings on the campus are the live stock barns, the pavilion, the new mechanics building, a central heating plant and several staff residences.

Capable of accommodating close to 200 students the dormitory contains all the modern conveniences and equipment necessary to meet the needs of student residential life. It was constructed in 1927 when it was found board and room facilities in the town were insufficient. At intervals the dormitory, like other buildings on the campus, is renovated and redecorated to provide as nearly as possible the most up-to-date facilities for life in residence.

Supervision of students in the dormitories is handled by a dean of men's residence and a dean of women's residence. Both live with the students. Fred C. Jorgenson and Miss Gwen Caverhill, university students not so long ago, hold these appointments at present. Being young enough to easily understand the student viewpoint they enjoy the respect and confidence of all and do not find their responsibilities too trying.

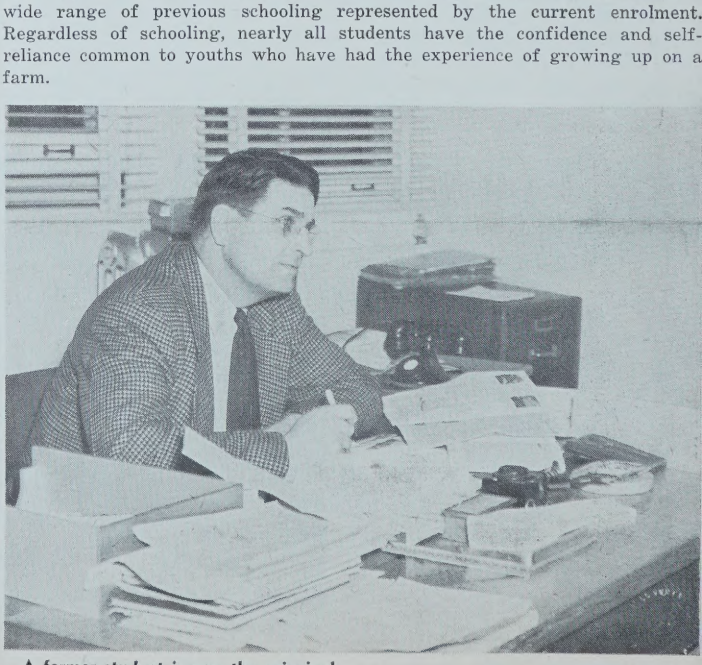
Other Facilities

In addition to living quarters the dormitory provides a reading room, library and infirmary which ensures that students have every facility to further their studies and safeguard their health. Board and room in this modern building is provided for $35 per month.

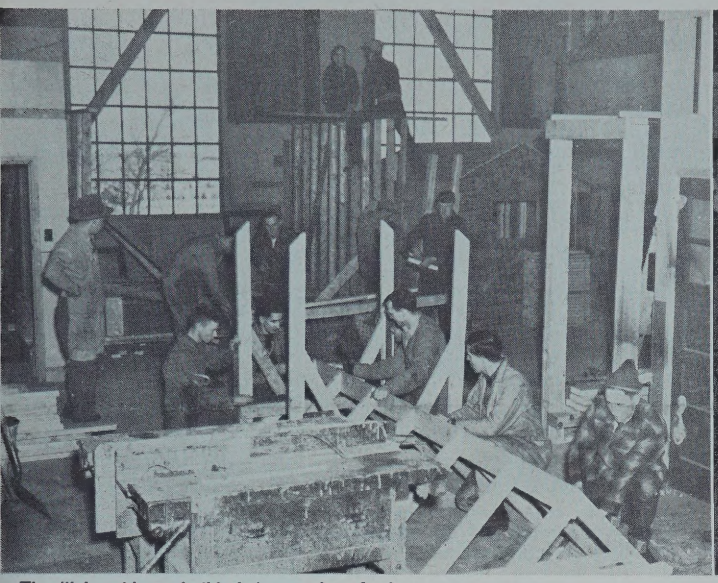
If the school imparted nothing more to its students than the experience of life in residence, it would still have accomplished a great deal.

According to F. N. Miller, principal of the Olds School of Agriculture, it is amazing to note the change in a boy or girl returning to the school for the second term. In place of the rough and ready person who arrived for the first year, the second-year student is a person tastefully dressed, familiar with the social graces and capable of conducting himself or herself most amicably with the other students. Mr. Miller claims that dormitory life does the same thing to a student that a diamond-cutter does to a precious gem. It knocks off the rough edges.

Since the purpose of the school is to provide the educational opportunity necessary to fit farm young people for their future calling as farmers and rural homemakers, the standards of entrance are maintained at a level which permits the greatest possible number to take advantage of the training offered. At present most of the students have had some previous high school education and about a quarter of them are high school graduates. The fact that one student holds a B.A. degree, one has had Normal School training and only 18 students have had less than a grade 11 education indicates the wide range of previous schooling represented by the current enrolment. Regardless of schooling, nearly all students have the confidence and self-reliance common to youths who have had the experience of growing up on a farm.



A former student is now the principal . . .



They'll be able to build their own hog feeders . . .

Animal sanitation a must in good farm management . . .

Ex-servicemen Students

Six ex-servicemen now are in attendance at the Olds school. Among these are James Bodman, former wing commander in the R.A.F., and L. G. P. Esmond-White, former British army major, who enrolled after having worked on a dairy farm near Blackfalds for a year.

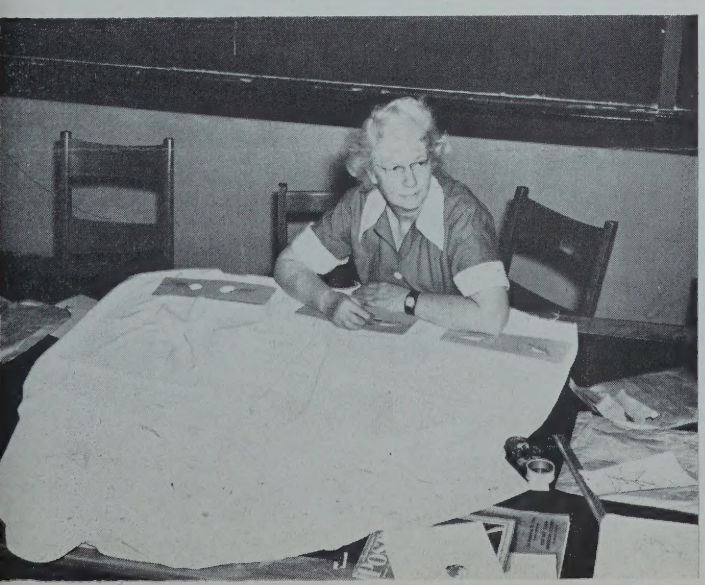
Included in the current student body are two refugees, a boy and a girl, from Rumania. Their parents have settled on Alberta farms. It is the intention of both refugee families to fit into the Alberta farm scene as quickly and capably as possible and they believe enrolment at the Olds School of Agriculture is a big step in this direction for the son and daughter.

Probably the most unique student is Mrs. E. Nelson of Cluny. Mrs. Nelson graduated from the Olds school in 1916 and was a member of the first class to graduate from the University of Alberta. Recently widowed, Mrs. Nelson, has returned to the school and is thoroughly enjoying dormitory life with her fellow students. To put it her way, she wants to "wear out—not rust away."

A two-fold program of instruction in, and practical application of, approved methods of agriculture and home economics ensures that the educational objective of the school is achieved year after year. The regular course covers a perod of two terms, each of six months' duration, opening in October and closing early in April. Applicants possessing at least grade 11 academic standing with the Department of Education, and whose scholastic ability and practical experience are of sufficiently high standard may enrol in a special two-in-one course if they desire. It permits them to take the full two-year course in one school year.

Prepare Meet Problems

With farming continually becoming more complex and scientific, the particular aim of the course in agriculture is to provide training which will enable the students to meet practical farm problems successfully. Emphasis is placed on animal and field husbandry and farm mechanics, including actual practise in carpentry, metal work and repair of farm machinery. Instruction in agricultural physics, chemistry, bacteriology, farm management, bookkeeping and mathematics is conducted to develop practical application of these in farm operation. Included in the curriculum, is an English course supplying a groundwork in the fundamentals along with training in public speaking and self expression. Second-year instruction is a continuation of the first year course on an advanced level.



She returned to refresh the learning of 1916 . . .

The home economics course is planned primarily for girls intending to become homemakers. In the course emphasis is placed on such subjects as cooking, sewing, household administration, home nursing and laundering. Horticulture, poultry and dairying also receive considerable attention since information along these lines is of particular value to women making homes on farms. Second-year work places emphasis on dietetics, home furnishings and clothing design while throughout both years regular classes in English, rural sociology, mathematics, chemistry and household mechanics also are included. Through these courses, instructed by women with long experience in rural life, the girls learn how to make their future lives happy and interesting.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Life at the school is far from being "all work and no play." Physical recreation and social activities are well organized. Under supervision of the staff, committees to sponsor athletics, literary and social activities are organized by the students shortly after the opening of the school term.

A council of about 12 representatives, elected by the student body and counselled by a member of the staff, handles all student funds making disbursements to the various committees as necessary. This council plays an active part in promoting and supervising all the extra-curricular activities engaged in at the school. On alternate years representatives of the Olds and Vermilion schools exchange visits and the complex arrangements for this visit are one of the chief responsibilities of the students' council.

Weekly literary programs featuring student and local talent are an important feature of school recreation life. These programs enable students to become experienced at providing their own entertainment and appearing in public. The self-confidence acquired by such participation serves the students well in later life and experience has proven that graduates make ideal chairmen for municipal committees on their return to active farm life. Regular dances, with music provided by the school orchestra, are perhaps the most popular form of extra-curricular activity. Whether the occasion be an old-time square dance or a sweet and swing session, the attendance usually is 100 percent.

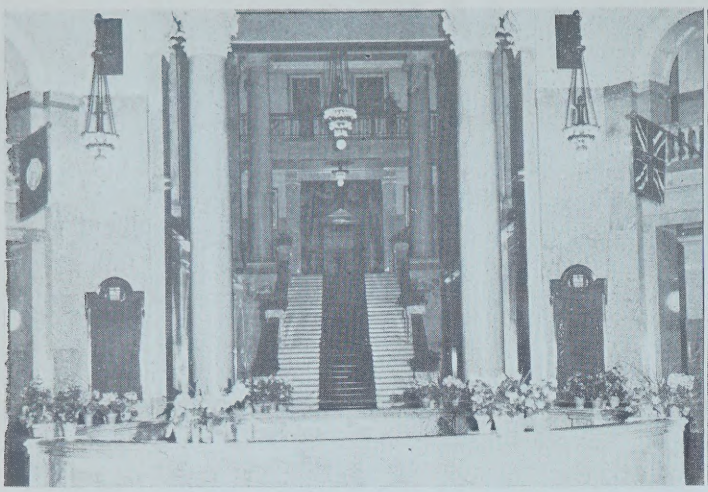
Athletic Activities

A track and field meet is held every fall, weather permitting, and during the school term basketball and hockey teams are active in the district.

Probably the best way to observe the spirit of the school in both curricular and extra-curricular activities is to join the students at mealtime. The staff has arranged a seating schedule for the year in such a manner that every student sits with every other student at some time during the term. Seated eight to a table the students take turns serving and thereby gain valuable experience. The conversation, subdued but no more, indicates everyone is having a whale of a good time. Under the casual eye of the head table, presided over by the dean of men and the dean of women, the students tackle the food with gusto.

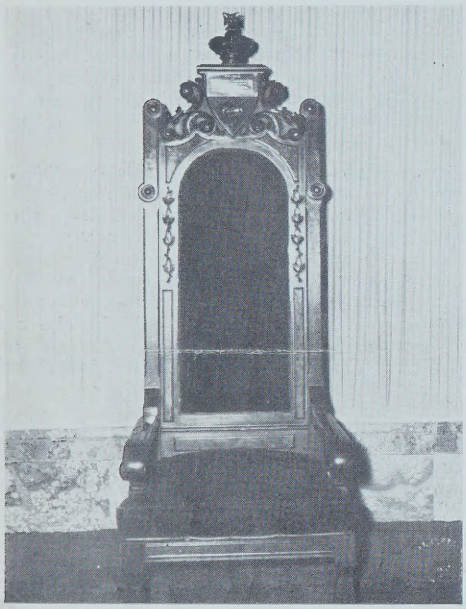
All-in-all, life at the school is rewarding from both the academic and the recreational standpoint. According to Mr. Miller, the students without exception consider the years spent at the school among the best of their lives. The influence which graduates of the school exert in rural life as community leaders and practical, successful farmers is ample evidence of the value of specialized agricultural education as provided at Alberta's Schools of Agriculture and Home Economics * * *

A Within Our Borders Picture Page » » »



This is the grand staircase leading from the main floor of the Legislative Buildings to the Assembly Chamber. On formal occasions such as the opening of a session of the Legislature, the stairway is carpeted and banked with potted plants from the Provincial Government greenhouse.

Here is the main Assembly Chamber of the Legislature where the debates between government and opposition members wage, where new laws are drafted and where government policies and expenditures are laid bare for a democratic scanning.



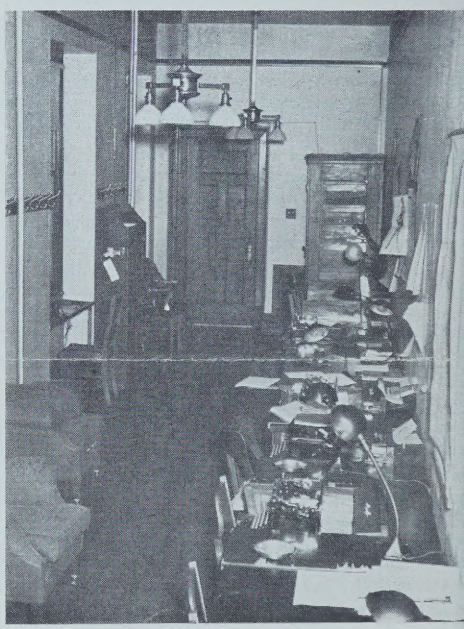
This straight-backed antique is a reminder of the pioneer days of government in the west. Occupying an honoured place on the floor of the Assembly Chamber, the chair is the one used by the late Dr. H. Charles Wilson, Speaker of the first Legislature of the North West Territories which met in 1888. It was presented to the Province of Alberta several years ago by Mrs. Wilson.

Fifty-seven Alberta Lawmakers Meet Here

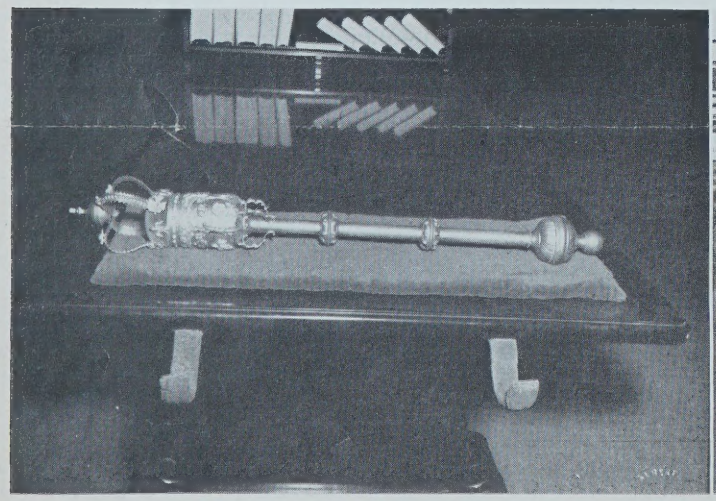
The first session of Alberta's 11th Legislature will open Thursday, February 17th. For approximately the next six weeks, the 57 members of the Legislature will meet daily, except Saturdays and Sundays, at 3:00 p.m.

The daily sittings usually last three hours. The mornings and early afternoons are, for the most part, taken up with meetings of committees of the Legislature and those held by the various parties, represented in the house. Many hundreds of Alberta citizens will visit the Legislature during the session, watching and listening to the proceedings from the public and private galleries.

No night sittings of the Legislature are planned but it is possible several will be called before this session prorogues, probably about the last week of March. * * *



Daily reports on the activities of a session of the Legislature are sent from this room direct to the newspapers, radio and wire services of the country. The main press gallery is on the other side of the wall at the right and it overlooks the Assembly Chamber, but it is in this room newspapermen covering the session prepare their reports.



With crown pointing toward the seats of the government, the mace must be on its velvet cushion at all times the Legislative Assembly is in session. It symbolizes the presence of His Majesty the King.

Much of the day-to-day business of the session is prepared and directed from this office. It is that of R. A. Andison, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who is seated at his desk in the background. Standing is Mr. James Thomson and seated at his desk in the foreground is Mr. Ray Crevolin, assistants.

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